IN THE CLAIMS

For the convenience of the Examiner, all pending claims of the Application are reproduced below.

1.   (Currently amended) A device for interworking asynchronous transfer mode cells, comprising:

a transmission convergence sublayer operable to receive <u>one or more</u> traffic ~~carrying~~ ~~asynchronous transfer mode cells~~ <u>streams</u>, the transmission convergence sublayer <u>being</u> operable to identify ~~each~~ <u>a selected one of the one or more</u> traffic <u>streams</u> carrying asynchronous transfer mode ~~cell received~~ <u>cells</u>; <u>and</u>

an encapsulation unit operable to receive <u>the selected</u> traffic <u>stream</u> carrying <u>the</u> asynchronous transfer mode cells identified by the transmission convergence sublayer, the encapsulation unit <u>being</u> operable to encapsulate ~~each identified~~ <u>the</u> traffic <u>stream</u> carrying <u>the</u> asynchronous transfer mode ~~cell~~ <u>cells</u> into an ~~encapsulation~~ <u>encapsulated</u> frame having a protocol format readable by a serial communications controller <u>that receives the encapsulated</u> <u>frame</u>.

2.   (Currently amended) The device of Claim 1, further comprising:

a framer unit operable to receive <u>the</u> traffic <u>streams</u> from a trunk line, the framer unit <u>being</u> operable to provide the traffic <u>streams</u> to the transmission convergence sublayer.

3.   (Currently amended) The device of Claim 2, further comprising:

a controller unit operable to receive <u>one or more of</u> the traffic <u>streams</u> from the framer unit, the controller unit <u>being further</u> operable to ~~provide the traffic~~ <u>communicate data</u> from ~~one of~~ the framer unit and the encapsulation unit for transfer to the serial communications ~~unit~~ <u>controller</u>.

4.   (Currently amended) The device of Claim 3, wherein the controller unit is operable to select the ~~traffic~~ <u>data</u> from the framer unit ~~according to the traffic not being~~ ~~carried by~~ <u>and the encapsulation unit to be propagated using respective links based on</u> <u>whether or not the data is carrying</u> asynchronous transfer mode cells.

5.   (Currently amended) The device of Claim 4, wherein the ~~traffic is carried by~~ data includes one or more packets associated with a selected one of a frame relay ~~packets~~ protocol, a point to point protocol (PPP), and a high level data link control (HDLC) protocol.

6.   (Currently amended) The device of Claim 1, wherein the transmission convergence sublayer is operable to identify and to discard asynchronous transfer mode null cells ~~without a~~ associated with a asynchronous transfer mode traffic ~~carrying~~ that does not include a payload.

7.   (Currently amended) The device of Claim 1, wherein the transmission convergence sublayer is operable to ~~remove a~~ perform header error correction ~~byte from each received traffic carrying~~ for the selected asynchronous transfer mode ~~cell~~ stream prior to ~~transfer~~ communicating the selected stream to the encapsulation unit.

8.   (Currently amended) The device of Claim 1, wherein the transmission convergence sublayer is operable to perform a header error correction and checksum ~~function~~ functions, ~~the transmission convergence sublayer operable~~ and to discard one or more of the asynchronous transfer mode cells with header error correction or checksum failures.

9.   (Currently amended) The device of Claim 1, wherein the ~~encapsulation~~ encapsulated ~~frames are~~ frame is transferred to the serial communication controller over a time division multiplexed communication link.

10.   (Original) The device of Claim 1, wherein the transmission convergence sublayer and the encapsulation unit are operable to receive programming commands to change a communication capability of the device.

11.   (Currently amended) A method for interworking asynchronous transfer mode cells, comprising:

receiving ~~asynchronous transfer mode cells~~ one or more traffic streams;

identifying a selected one of the traffic streams as including one or more asynchronous transfer mode cells carrying telecommunications traffic;

encapsulating ~~identified~~ one ore more of the asynchronous transfer mode cells ~~in~~ into an encapsulated ~~frames~~ frame having a protocol format readable by a serial communications controller.

12.   (Currently amended) The method of Claim 11, further comprising:

determining whether or not the received ~~telecommunications~~ traffic ~~is received in~~ includes one or more of the asynchronous transfer mode cells; and

providing one or more of the ~~telecommunications~~ traffic streams that do not include one or more of the asynchronous transfer mode cells directly to the serial communications controller ~~in response to the telecommunications traffic not being carried in asynchronous transfer mode cells~~.

13.   (Currently amended) The method of Claim ~~12~~ 11, wherein a selected one of the streams includes ~~the telecommunications traffic is carried in~~ frame relay packets.

14.   (Currently amended) The method of Claim 11, further comprising:

discarding one or more of the asynchronous transfer mode cells that do not carry ~~telecommunications traffic~~ a payload.

15.   (Currently amended) The method of Claim 11, further comprising:

~~removing~~ performing a header error correction function ~~byte from each~~ for one or more of the asynchronous transfer mode ~~cell~~ cells received.

16.   (Currently amended) The method of Claim 11, further comprising:

performing ~~a~~ header error correction and checksum ~~process~~ functions for ~~on each received~~ one or more of the asynchronous transfer mode ~~cell~~ cells.

17.   (Currently amended) The method of Claim 16, further comprising:

discarding <u>one or more of the</u> asynchronous transfer mode cells that fail the header error correction or checksum ~~process~~ <u>functions</u>.

18.   (Original) The method of Claim 11, further comprising:

receiving programming commands in order to change a communication capability according to a desired protocol format for the communications controller.

19.   (Original) The method of Claim 18, wherein the desired protocol format is a high level data link control protocol.

20.   (Currently amended) A device for interworking asynchronous transfer mode cells, comprising:

means for receiving ~~asynchronous transfer mode cells~~ <u>one or more traffic streams</u>;

means for identifying <u>a selected one of the traffic streams as including one or more</u> asynchronous transfer mode cells carrying telecommunications traffic; <u>and</u>

means for encapsulating ~~identified~~ <u>one ore more of the</u> asynchronous transfer mode cells ~~in~~ <u>into an</u> encapsulated ~~frames~~ <u>frame</u> having a protocol format readable by a serial communications controller.